

# AVOIDING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE FOR SMALLER INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION



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*Recommendations to the  
President's Information Technology Advisory Committee*

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NOVEMBER 2000



# Educause Report:

## Avoiding a Digital Divide in Advanced Networking for Smaller Institutions

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### Recommendations for the PITAC

- Support immediate steps to build on existing projects to support research in our smaller institutions.
- Encourage the expansion of advanced network access to a broader spectrum of higher institutions by offering multi-year infrastructure funding opportunities for projects that utilize advanced network technologies for innovative educational purposes.
- Create tax incentives for telecommunications carriers and network service providers that provide service to higher education institutions.
- Identify and support initiatives to help solve the shortage of network and other IT workers within higher education.
- Enable a special White House and Congressional role for the education of executive leadership of smaller institutions of higher education.
- A immediate, in-depth, study of the requirements and costs of networking for smaller institutions, seeking hard data to support realistic and accurate consideration of necessary funding levels for the suggested programs.